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Revision of Sri Lankan Acrotrichines (Coleoptera: Ptiliidae)

by

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With 32 figures

Abstract

Four genera (one new) and thirteen species (seven new) of Acrotrichine Ptiliids from Sri Lanka are described and figured. New taxa are *Nephanes tristis* sp. n.; *Storicricha primitiva* gen. et sp. n. (type species), *S. furiosa* sp. n.; *Acrotrichis setosa* sp. n., *A. fulva* sp. n., *A. fusca* sp. n., *A. nigella* sp. n. *A. orientalis* Motsch (= *ceylonica* Motsch., *trapeziformis* Motsch., syn. n.) is redescribed and shown to be distinct; *immatura* (Nietner) is confirmed as a synonym of *A. cursitans* (Nietner).

INTRODUCTION

Historical Review

The first Ptiliidae reported from Ceylon were mostly Acrotrichines: *Trichopteryx cursitans* and *T. immatura* (Nietner 1856, 1857), *Acratrichis orientalis, A. ceylonica* and *A. trapeziformis* (Motschulsky 1858), all of which were subsequently included by Matthews (1872) in his monograph. This early interest was not sustained however, and was followed by nearly a century of neglect. In more recent times, *Acrotrichis cursitans* was redescribed (Johnson 1969), *A. discoloroides* Johnson and *A. britteni* Johnson recorded from the island (Johnson, 1985), and *Baeocrara parvula* and *B. vaga* described (Johnson 1986) on part Sri Lanka material. The present paper is the first revision within the family devoted to the extensive collections made in the island by recent Swiss and Swedish expeditions.

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Material

This revision is based upon nearly 1000 specimens collected in diverse parts of Sri Lanka. Sources of specimens studied are indicated by the following abbreviations:

BMNH British Museum (Nat. Hist.), London
MDC Michael D. Darby collection, London
MG Muséum d'Histoire naturelle, Genève
MM Manchester Museum
MNB Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin
PAS Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw
VMC Viggo Mahler collection, Aarhus
ZML Zoological Museum, Lund
ZMM Zoological Museum, Moscow

Habitat and other information is added to the listed data where available. In some cases this is already to be found on the specimens, or is extracted from field notes retained in institutions. Notes from the 1962 Swedish Expedition have already been published (Brinck *et al.* 1971).

SYSTEMATICS

Acrotrichine Ptiliidae

As here understood, the Acrotrichine section of Ptiliidae may be defined by the following combination of characters: body rather broad and flattened; elytra ± truncate, exposing (in life) four or five segments of the long abdomen; apical two tergites completely fused together into a triangular plate; mesosternum with hind margin straight, hind angles distinct and situated at body sides; aedeagus symmetrical, usually with a pair of ventral hooks. Apart from the quite different Pterycines, only *Ptiliodes* Matthews amongst the Sri Lanka fauna bears any resemblance to the Acrotrichines, but this is excluded from the present work in view of the distinctive formation of the last two tergites. For a further discussion on the phyletic lines in the family, see Dybas (1976).

Key to Genera

1 Pronotum with hind angles not produced posteriorly (fig. 5); mesosternum with side arms of collar ± straight (figs 1-2) 2
— Pronotum with hind angles produced posteriorly (fig. 11); mesosternum with side arms of collar strongly bent (figs 3-4) 3
2 Head without transverse suture behind; pronotum finely margined at sides (fig. 5); dorsum granulate, reticulate; mesosternum with hind margin feebly oblique, disc tumid behind (fig. 1) ..... *Nephanes* Thomson
— Head with transverse suture behind; pronotum with broad and flattened side margins (fig. 8); dorsum punctured, shining; mesosternum with hind margin somewhat strongly oblique, disc longitudinally carinate behind (fig. 2) ..... *Baeocrara* Thomson
3 Metacoxae almost contiguous, feebly separated by projecting metasternal process with apical notch (fig. 3) ..... *Storicricha* gen. n.
— Metacoxae clearly separated by truncate hind margin of metasternum (fig. 4), separation at least a sixth of the metasternal width ..... *Acrotrichis* Motschulsky

Genus **Nephanes** Thomson

Nephanes Thomson, 1859, *Skand. Col.* 1: 62; Matthews 1872, *Trichopt. Illustr.:* 104; Flach 1889, *Verh. zool. bot. Ges. Wien* 39: 492, 514; Johnson 1968, *Entomologist* 101: 76; —, 1982, *N.Z. Jl. Zool.* 9: 372; —, 1985, *Entomologica basil.* 10: 218; Besuchet 1971, *Käfer Mitteleurop.* 3: 333.

Zamenhofia Vuillet, 1911*a*, *Ins. Rev. Illustr. Ent* (Rennes) 1: 219; —, 1911*b* , *Ins. Rev. Illustr. Ent.* (Rennes) 1: 259.

Body elongate, somewhat broad, relatively flat; pubescent. Head large. Pronotum with hind angles not produced rearwards; side margins fine. Elytra truncate apically, 4 abdominal segments exposed behind; epipleural carina absent. Prosternum rather narrow in front of procoxae. Mesosternum with front angles toothed; collar extending across pleura, side arms straight; hind angles slightly obtuse; hind margin straight, very feebly oblique; disc not longitudinally carinate behind, tumid between contiguous mesocoxae. Metasternum with hind margin toothed mesad of coxae; metacoxae almost moderately separated by about one quarter of metasternal width, with rather large and narrow plates (fig. 1). Ventrite 1 without femoral lines. Pygidium composed of tergites 9 and 10 completely fused together into a large triangular plate, apex ± tridentate. Male: genital plate (internally covering apical emargination to last ventrite) symmetrical, basal spine straight; aedeagus symmetrical. Female: spermatheca well developed.

Nephanes tristis sp. n. (figs 5, 6, 7)

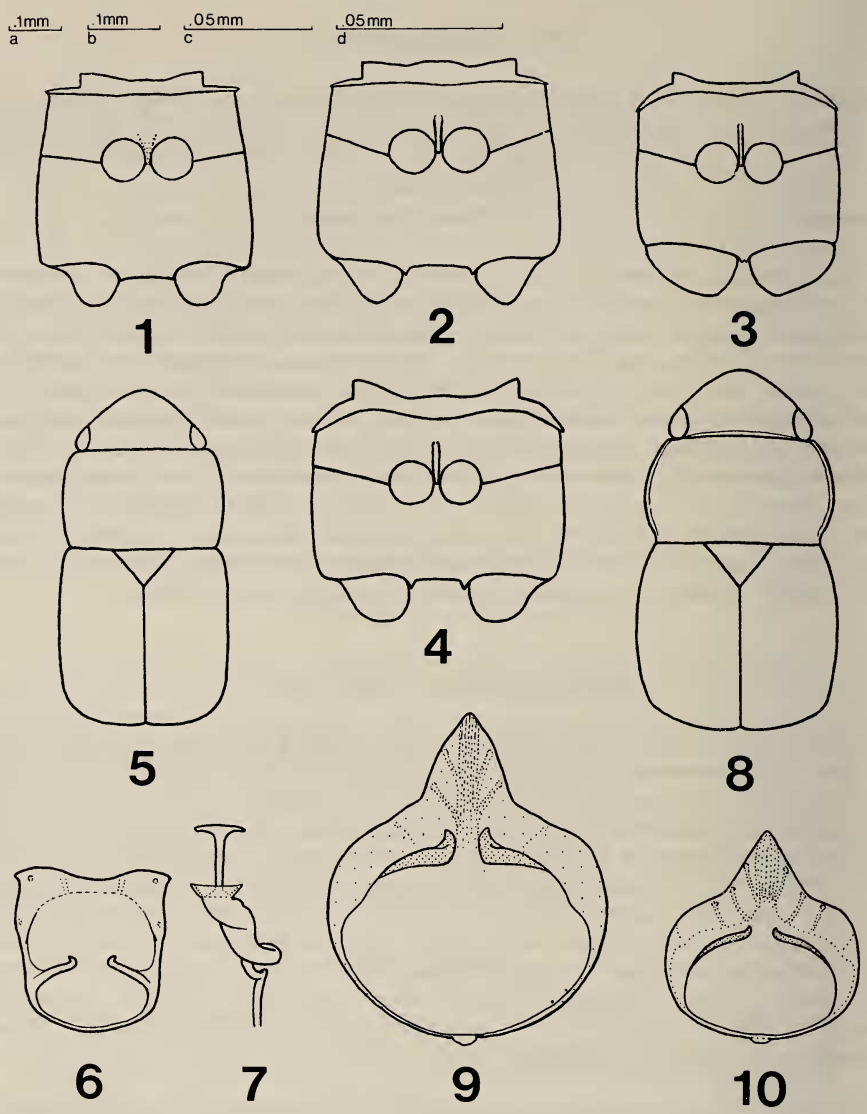
Length 0.46-0.50 mm. Dorsum slightly shining. Body blackish, elytra hardly lighter; legs dirty yellowish-brown; antennae very dark brown, two basal segments only a little lighter. Head broad, closely granulate and reticulate; breadth 0.19-0.21 mm; antennae rather short, length 0.26-0.27 mm, middle segments short and thick, less than 1.5 times as broad as long. Pronotum 1.65-1.84 times as broad as long, breadth 0.23-0.25 mm; sides very feebly curved to almost straight, more curved at front angles, hind angles obtuse; greatest breadth when apparent around middle; hind margin barely longer than front margin; surface closely granulate, finely reticulate. Elytra rather short, 1.77-1.94 times as long as pronotum and about as long as broad, 0.96-1.02 times, breadth 0.25-0.26 mm; sides almost straight, sometimes feebly widened posteriorly; scale-like granulation arranged in weakly formed, transverse, wavy rows; pubescence fine and dense, flat. Male: aedeagus fig. 6. Female: spermatheca fig. 7.

Holotype ♂: *North Central Prov.:* Anuradhapura, Tissa Wewa Lake, 15.I.1983, dung on grassy area, leg. M. D. Darby (MM).

Paratypes: *North Central Prov.:* same data as holotype, 2♂, 4♀, 5 ex. (MDC). *Southern Prov.:* Mihiripenna, near Talpe, SE Galle, 7.I.1983, dung on sandy grassy area with palms, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂, 5♀ (MDC).

Other specimens: India — *Mysore:* Sringapatnam, 24.I.1983, ex cow dung, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♀ (MDC).

Very closely allied to the well known *titan* (Newman), but differing as follows: flatter, blacker; head broader in proportion to the pronotum which is broader in proportion to the shorter elytra; antennae dark, the two basal segments dirty brown; head and pronotum with closer and more distinct granulation, and much finer reticulation; elytral sculpture



FIGS 1-4.

meso- and meta- sterna: 1, *Nephanes;* 2, *Baeocrara;* 3, *Storicricha;* 4, *Acrotrichis.*

FIGS 5-7.

Nephanes tristis sp. n.: 5, habitus; 6, aedeagus; 7, spermatheca.

FIGS 8-9.

Baeocrara vaga Johnson: 8, habitus; 9, aedeagus.

FIG. 10.

B. parvula Johnson, aedeagus. (Scale lines — Figs: 5, b; 8, a; 6-7, c; 9-10, d).

forming weak, transverse and wavy rows. The genitalia of both sexes are quite distinct in the two species.

Genus **Baeocrara** Thomson

Baeocrara Thomson, 1859, *Skand. Col.* 1: 162; Flach 1889, *Verh. zool. bot. Ges. Wien* 39: 492, 514; Besuchet 1971, *Käfer Mitteleurop.* 3: 314, 334; Johnson 1986, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* 122: 79.

Body elongate, somewhat broad, rather flat; pubescent; dorsum punctured and shining, not reticulate. Head moderate to large; transverse suture present behind. Pronotum broadest at or behind middle, hind angles not produced rearwards; side margins conspicuous, rather broad and flattened. Elytra truncate apically, 4 abdominal segments exposed behind; epipleural carina absent. Prosternum rather narrow in front of procoxae. Mesosternum with front angles toothed; collar extending across pleura, side arms straight; hind angles obtuse; hind margin straight, somewhat strongly oblique; disc with short longitudinal carina behind, extending to between contiguous mesocoxae. Metasternum with hind margin weakly toothed mesad of coxae; metacoxae moderately separated by about a third of metasternal width, with somewhat large and narrow plates (fig. 2). Ventrite 1 without femoral lines. Pygidium composed of tergites 9 and 10 completely fused together into a large triangular plate, apex not dentate. Male: genital plate (internally covering apical emargination to last ventrite) symmetrical, basal spine straight; aedeagus symmetrical. Female: spermatheca small, with fine loops.

Key to Species

1 Narrower, smaller, length 0.51-0.58 mm. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation with 3-4 internal spines; aedeagus fig. 10 ..... *parvula* Johnson
— Broader, larger, length 0.62-0.70 mm. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation with 8-9 internal spines; aedeagus fig. 9 ..... *vaga* Johnson

Baeocrara parvula Johnson (fig. 10)

Johnson, 1986, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* 122: 81.

Length 0.51-0.58 mm. Head and pronotum reddish-brown, scutellum and elytra reddish, or coloration entirely reddish; legs and antennal base yellowish-brown, antennal stem and club slightly darker. Dorsum shining, not reticulate, pubescent. Head broad in proportion to pronotum, finely and somewhat closely punctured; eyes moderately large; head breadth 0.20-0.22 mm; antennae moderately long, 0.29-0.32 mm. Pronotum 1.60-1.80 times as broad as long, breadth 0.26-0.29 mm, broadest around middle; sides weakly curved and barely narrowed apically, curved and sinuate behind to the rectangular hind angles; side margins well marked, rather broad, flattened, of equal width throughout; hind margin barely longer than front margin, base as wide as elytral base; disc covered with moderately large punctures, mostly about a diameter apart, punctures becoming finer and sparser laterally. Elytra 1.76-1.81 times as long as pronotum, and about as long as broad, breadth 0.27-0.30 mm; about as broad as pronotum, broadest around middle, sides weakly curved; surface rather sparsely covered with somewhat small

punctures which are smaller and sparser than those on pronotal disc; pubescence moderate, recumbent, the hairs c. 0.025-0.03 mm. Male: ventrite 6 excavation with 3-4 spines internally; aedeagus fig. 10.

Material examined: *North Central Prov.:* Anuradhapura, Tissa Wewa Lake, 15.I.1983, dung on grassy area, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂ paratype (MDC).

Wider distribution: Nepal (JOHNSON, *loc. cit.*).

Baeocrara vaga Johnson (figs 8, 9)

Johnson, 1986, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* 122: 82.

Length 0.62-0.70 mm. Head and pronotum dark reddish-brown, scutellum and elytra reddish; legs and antennal base yellowish-brown, antennal stem and club usually darker. Dorsum shining, not reticulate, pubescent. Head broad in proportion to pronotum, often somewhat strongly punctured; eyes moderately large; head breadth 0.24-0.26 mm; antennae moderately long, 0.34-0.37 mm. Pronotum 1.57-1.71 times as broad as long, breadth 0.32-0.35 mm, broadest somewhat behind middle; sides curved and feebly narrowed apically, curved and sinuate behind to the rectangular hind angles; side margins well marked, broad, flattened, of equal width throughout; hind margin barely longer than front margin, base as wide as elytral base; disc covered with moderately large punctures, mostly about a diameter apart, punctures becoming finer and sparser laterally. Elytra 1.65-1.84 times as long as pronotum and about as long as broad, breadth 0.34-0.37 mm; about as wide as pronotum, usually broadest around middle, sides weakly curved; surface somewhat sparsely covered with moderate to small punctures which are smaller and sparser than those on pronotal disc; pubescence moderate, recumbent, the hairs c. 0.03 mm. Male: ventrite 6 excavation with 8-9 spines internally; aedeagus fig. 9.

Material examined: *North Central Prov.:* Anuradhapura, Tissa Wewa Lake, 15.I.1983, dung on grassy area, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂, 4♀ paratypes (MDC, MM). *Southern Prov.:* 6 miles NW Hulandawa, 20 miles NE Galle, 29.I.1962, in sweepnet, grassy ground near stream, loc. 35, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♀ paratype (ZML).

Wider distribution: Nepal, Philippine and Solomon Islands (JOHNSON, *loc. cit*). I have seen further specimens from West Malaysia: Singapore, and Indonesia: Sumatra, so the species is probably very widespread in tropical Asia.

Genus **Storicricha** gen. n.

Body elongate, rather broad, slightly convex; pubescent. Head moderately large, not bordered at sides; eyes present. Antennae 11-segmented.

Pronotum broader than long; sides curved, margins finely bordered; front margin slightly curved; hind margin sinuate laterally; hind angles produced rearwards.

Elytra barely longer than broad, subtruncate apically, exposing upto 4 abdominal segments behind; humeri not toothed; epipleura not developed, carina absent. Scutellum large, triangular. Wings as in most Ptiliids.

Prosternum narrow in front of procoxae, less than a quarter of a coxal diameter in width; front margin straight; procoxae contiguous; pleura concave.

Mesosternum short; front angles toothed; hind angles obtuse, located at body sides; hind margin straight, slightly oblique; disc with a short longitudinal carina behind; mesocoxae contiguous; collar strongly developed, delineated and rather sinuate behind, extending across pleura, side arms bent.

Metasternum slightly longer than mesosternum; episterna not developed; hind margin with very narrow, apically notched, intercoxal process; metacoxae almost contiguous; coxal plates large, very broad and entire (fig. 3).

Ventrite 1 without femoral lines. Pygidium large and triangular, composed of tergites 9 and 10 which are completely fused together; apex ± tridentate. Male genital plate (internally covering apical emargination to last visible ventrite) symmetrical, basal spine straight; aedeagus symmetrical. Female spermatheca well-developed.

Systematic position: the structure of the rear half of the mesosternum and the almost contiguous metacoxae with their large plates, give this genus a superficial resemblance to *Bambara* Vuillet. *Storicricha* is undoubtedly Acrotrichine in its relationships however, due to the more projecting abdomen and characteristic structure of the pygidium. The proximity of the metacoxae is a very interesting feature, as contiguous metacoxae seem to occur mostly amongst the more primitive sections of the family, including *Nossidium* Erichson, Nanosellines, and *Bambara*.

Storicricha is most closely allied to *Acrotrichis* Motschulsky. It can only be distinguished from that genus by the almost contiguous metacoxae and the apically notched intercoxal process.

Derivation: an anagram of *Acrotrichis*.

Type species: *Storicricha primitiva* sp. n.

Key to Species

1 Broader, larger, length 0.72-0.77 mm; antennae thin, club shorter than segments 3-8 combined; pronotum very finely and closely granulate, reticulation indistinct; metacoxal separation slight, intercoxal process very narrow and with deep V-shaped notch (fig. 12); pygidium with apical tooth. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation feeble; aedeagus fig. 13. ♀: spermatheca fig. 14 ..... *primitiva* sp. n.

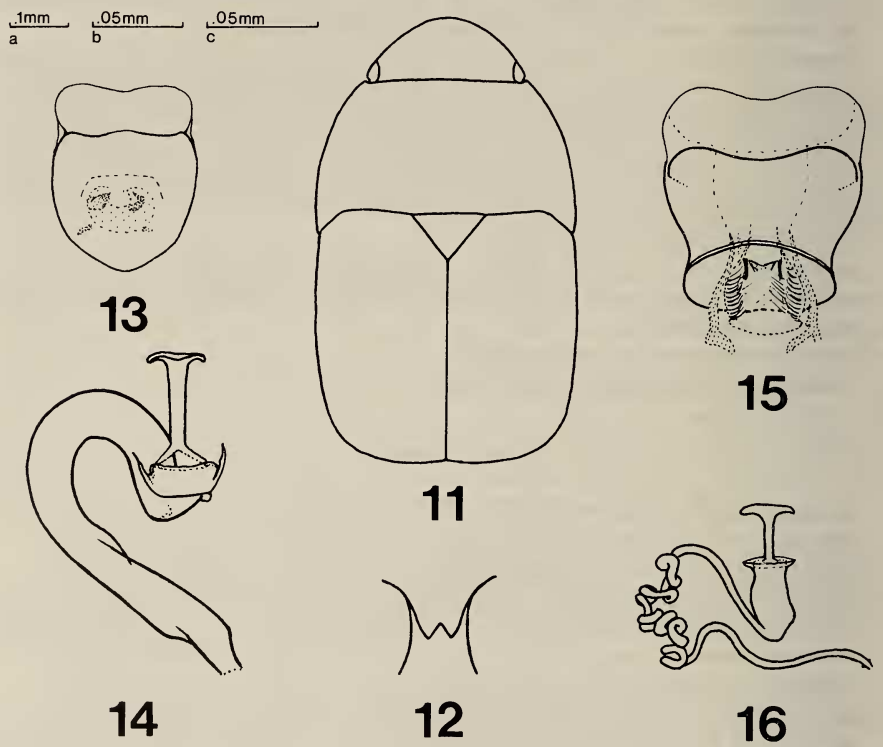
— Narrower, smaller, length 0.66-0.72 mm; antennae thicker, club as long as segments 3-8 combined; pronotum finely and somewhat closely granulate, reticulation well-marked; metacoxal separation very narrow, intercoxal process narrow and with shallowly concave apical notch; pygidium without apical tooth. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation moderate; aedeagus fig. 15. ♀: spermatheca fig. 16 ..... *furiosa* sp. n.

Storicricha primitiva sp. n. (figs 11, 12, 13, 14)

Length 0.72-0.77 mm. Moderately broad, dark brown, densely pubescent. Head covered with very fine points, reticulation lacking. Antennae moderately long, length 0.33-0.36 mm; yellowish-brown, two basal segments paler; stem segments (3-8) thin, at least 2.5 times as long as broad; club rather short, much shorter than segments 3-8 combined. Pronotum broadest ± at base, breadth 0.40-0.46 mm; hind angles moderately produced; surface very finely and closely granulate, reticulation indistinct; side-edge slightly curved. Elytra about as broad as pronotal base, sides sub-parallel, apical truncature

somewhat oblique; sculpture similar to that on pronotum but slightly denser and more evenly spaced. Pygidium with an apical median tooth. Metacoxal separation slight, about a third of a mesocoxal diameter; intercoxal process very narrow, apical notch deep and V-shaped (fig. 12). Male: ventrite 6 with hind margin feebly excavated medially, without coarse spines internally; aedeagus fig. 13. Female: spermatheca fig. 14.

Holotype ♀: *Central Prov.:* Knuckle mountains, 15 miles NE Kandy, 11.III.1962, sieved in jungle, loc. 132, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm (ZML).



Figs 11-14.

Storicricha primitiva gen. et sp. n.: 11, habitus; 12, intercoxal process of metasternum; 13, aedeagus; 14, spermatheca.

Figs 15-16.

S. furiosa sp. n.: 15, aedeagus; 16, spermatheca. (Scale lines — Figs: 11, a; 13-14, b; 12, 15, 16, b).

Paratypes: *Central Prov.:* same data as holotype, 3♂, 3 ex. (ZML); Horton Plains, 6700 ft., 11 miles SSE Nuwara-Eliya, 4.III.1962, sieved at stream, loc. 162, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 4♂, 1♀, 1 ex. (ZML); Horton Plains, 2100 m, 15.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 68, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG); Pidurutalagala, 2 miles NW Nuwara-Eliya, 4.III.1962, sieved at stream, loc. 116: 1, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♀, 1 ex. (ZML); Pidurutalagala, 2200 m, 29.I.1970,

sieving in forest towards SW of mountain, No. 32, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG); Pidurutalagala, 2200-2480 m, 18.XII.1979, bamboo litter in shade, leg. V. Mahler, 1♂, 3♀, 1 ex. (VMC); Hakgala, 1700-1800 m, sieving in wooded ravine towards NE of mountain, No. 30*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂, 1♀ (MG); Hakgala, 1800 m, 28.I.1970, sieving in virgin forest above botanic garden, No. 30*c*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG); Pussellawa, Rothschild Tea Plantation, 1800 ft., 11.I.1983, in pile of weeds, palm cuttings, grass etc., leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂ (MDC).

Other specimens: no precise locality, leg. A. Matthews, 1♀ (ZMB), 2♀ (MM).

Storicricha furiosa sp. n. (figs 15, 16)

Length 0.66-0.72 mm. Relatively somewhat narrow, dark brown, densely pubescent. Head closely covered with rather fine points, reticulation lacking. Antennae moderately long, length 0.32-0.34 mm; yellowish-brown, two basal segments paler; stem segments (3-8) rather thick, nearly twice as long as broad; club long, about as long as segments 3-8 combined. Pronotum broadest ± at base, breadth 0.35-0.38 mm; hind angles moderately produced; surface finely but not too closely granulate, reticulation well marked; side-edge slightly curved. Elytra about as broad as pronotal base, sides subparallel; sculpture with granulation denser and more regular than on pronotum, reticulation somewhat obscure. Pygidium without an apical median tooth. Metacoxal separation very narrow, about half of a mesocoxal diameter; intercoxal process narrow, apical notch shallowly concave. Male: ventrite 6 with hind margin moderately excavated medially, without a fringe of associated coarse spines internally; aedeagus fig. 15. Female: spermatheca fig. 16.

Holotype ♀: *Central Prov.:* Kandy, 700 m, 14.II.1970, wooded hills to S of lake, sieving dead leaves accumulated in large hollow, No. 67*b*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl (MG).

Paratypes: *Central Prov.:* same data as holotype, 1♂, 2♀ (MG); Kandy, Udawattakele Sanctuary, 10.I.1983, leaf litter, leg. M. D. Darby, 2♀ (MDC); Horton Plains, 7000 ft., 19.III.1962, 12 miles SSE Nuwara-Eliya, swept at edge of jungle, No. 163, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♂ (ZML); Matale, 400 m, 17.I.1970, sieving in wooded ravine, loc. 7, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 2♀ (MG); Mululla, 750 m, 4.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 45, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂ (MG). *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Deerwood, Kuruwita, 6 miles NNW Ratnapura, 18-21.II.1962, in sweep net, ravine with stream, loc. 90: iii, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♀ (ZML); Karagal-Oya, 1900 ft., 3 miles ENE Belihul-Oya, 2.III.1962, sieved in debris, ravine, loc. 110, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♀ (ZML).

Other specimens: INDIA — *Tamil Nadu:* Rampair, Coonor Forest, Nilgiri Hills, 28.I.1983, in leaf litter by stream, leg. M. D. Darby, 3♂, 2♀, 18 ex. (MDC).

Genus **Acrotrichis** Motschulsky

Acrotrichis Motschulsky, 1848, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou* 21: 568; BESUCHET, SUNDT 1971, *Käfer Mitteleurop.* 3: 315, 335; JOHNSON 1982*a*, *N. Z. Jl. Zool.* 9: 373; —, 1985, *Entomologica basil.* 10: 220.

Acratrichis Motschulsky, 1858, *Etudes ent.* 7: 32 (variant spelling).

Trichopteryx Kirby & Spence, 1826, *Introd. Ent.* 3: 41; MATTHEWS 1872, *Trichopt. Illustr.:* 112; FLACH 1889, *Verh. zool. bot. Ges. Wien* 39: 516 (primary homonym: not *Trichopteryx* Hübner, 1825, Lepidoptera).

Body elongate, usually rather broad, relatively flat; pubescent. Pronotum broadest mostly in basal half; hind angles produced rearwards. Elytra truncate apically,

4 abdominal segments exposed behind; epipleural carina absent. Prosternum rather narrow in front of procoxae. Mesosternum with front angles toothed; collar well-developed, extending across pleura, side arms bent; hind angles obtuse; hind margin straight, slightly oblique; disc with short longitudinal carina behind, extending to between contiguous mesocoxae. Metasternum with hind margin toothed mesad of coxae; metacoxae rather narrowly separated by about a fifth to a sixth of metasternal width, with large, narrow to broad plates (fig. 4). Ventrite 1 without femoral lines. Pygidium composed of tergites 9 and 10 completely fused together into a large triangle; apex ± tridentate. Male: genital plate (internally covering apical emargination to last ventrite) symmetrical, basal spine straight; aedeagus symmetrical. Female: spermatheca well-developed.

Key to Species

1 Sides of pronotum and elytra with outstanding setae 2
— Sides of pronotum and elytra without outstanding setae 3
2 Unicolorous brownish-black, elytra rarely lighter; foreparts not metallic; setae fine and short, little distinct (fig. 17); pronotum slightly dull, finely and closely granulate, sides more curved; elytra often feebly narrowed posteriorly. ♂: unknown. ♀: spermatheca rudimentary ..... *discoloroides* Johnson
— Bicolorous, foreparts blackish, elytra reddish; head and pronotum metallic; setae long and conspicuous; pronotum more coarsely and less closely granulate, sides straighter; elytra not narrowed posteriorly. ♂: aedeagus fig. 20. ♀: spermatheca fig. 26 ..... *setosa* sp. n.
3 Smaller, length 0.59-0.72 mm, narrow, not posteriorly narrowed; elytral epipleura not developed 4
— Larger, length at least 0.80 mm, broad, posteriorly narrowed (fig. 19); elytral epipleura widened ventrally in humeral region 7
4 Head and pronotum somewhat dull, coarsely granulate and strongly reticulate; body flattened and slightly broader; elytra rather short, 1.1-1.2 times as long as head and pronotum combined (fig. 18). ♂: unknown. ♀: spermatheca fig. 24 ..... *britteni* Johnson
— Head rather shining, with scattered fine points, reticulation indistinct or lacking; pronotum finely granulate, finely or obscurely reticulate; body more convex, slightly narrower; elytra longer, at least 1.25 times as long as head and pronotum combined 5
5 Pronotum broadest at base; colour pale, yellowish to reddish-brown. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation internally with 6 coarse spines; aedeagus fig. 21. ♀: spermatheca fig. 28 ..... *fulva* sp. n.
— Pronotum broadest behind middle; colour darker 6
6 Antennae short, stem segments c. 2.5 times as long as broad; body dark reddish-brown, rarely blackish. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation internally with 3 coarse spines; aedeagus fig. 22. ♀: spermatheca fig. 27 ..... *fusca* sp. n.
— Antennae long, stem segments over 3 times as long as broad; body blackish, rarely paler. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation weak, internally with 12 coarse spines; aedeagus fig. 23. ♀: spermatheca fig. 25 ..... *nigella* sp. n.
7 Smaller, length 0.08-0.91 mm; antennae short and thick; pronotum finely and closely granulate, hind angles barely paler than disc, side-edge weakly curved

and almost straight basally. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation shallow, with a basal fold and an extensive fringe of coarse setae; aedeagus fig. 29. ♀: spermatheca fig. 31 ..... *cursitans* (Nietner)

— Larger, length 0.91-1.07 mm; antennae long and slender; pronotum very finely and very closely granulate, hind angles paler than disc, side-edge rather strongly curved. ♂: ventrite 6 excavation very feeble, without coarse spines; aedeagus fig. 30. ♀: spermatheca fig. 32 ..... *orientalis* Motschulsky

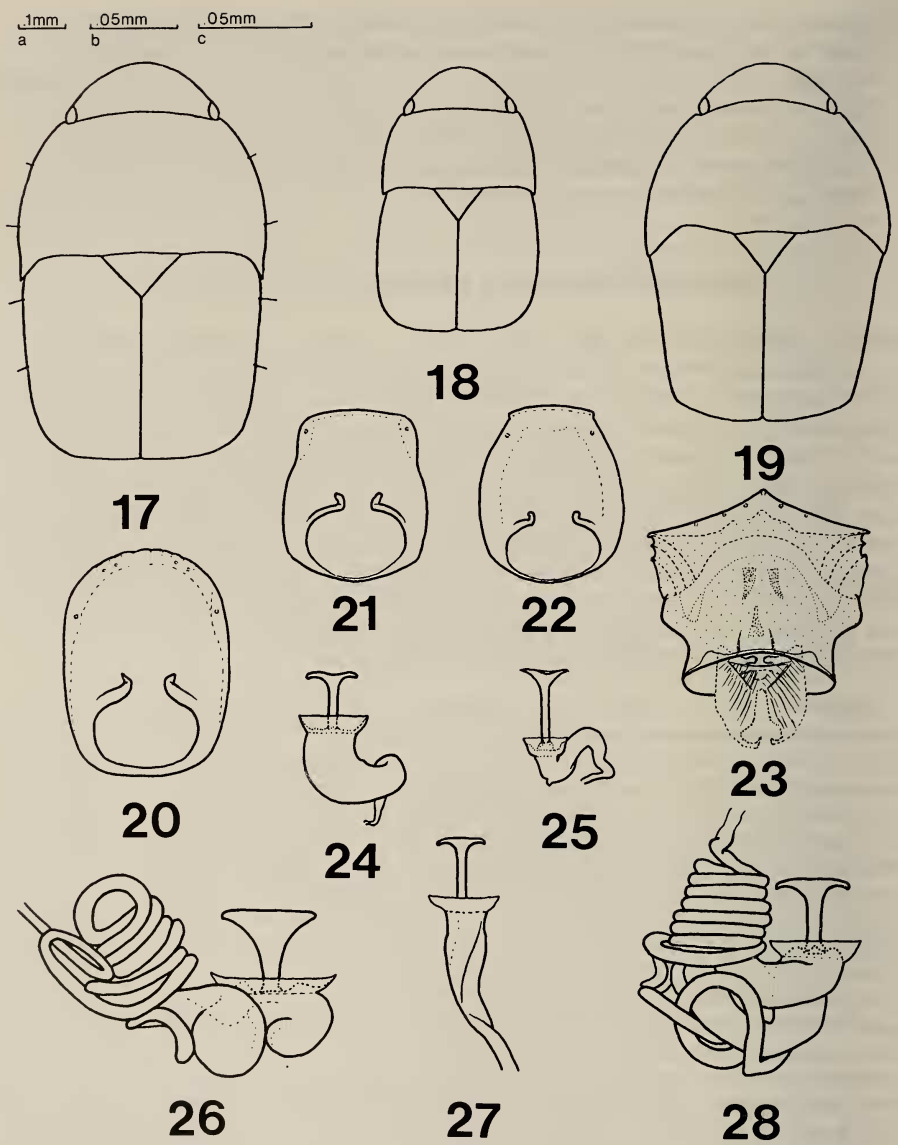
Acrotrichis (Ctenopteryx) discoloroides Johnson (fig. 17)

Johnson, 1969, *Revue Zool. Bot. Afr.* 79: 227; —, 1985, *Entomologica basil.* 10: 226.

Length 0.83-0.90 mm. Body moderately broad, little convex; little shining, finely and densely pubescent. Blackish or brownish-black, elytra sometimes slightly brownish; antennae brown, two basal segments yellowish-brown. Head with scattered fine points, rather shining, reticulation indistinct. Antennae moderately long, 0.40-0.45 mm, stem segments nearly 3 times as long as broad. Pronotum little ample, breadth 0.51-0.58 mm; sides with two short, fine setae; side-edge (from 45°) feebly curved, almost straight basally, very slightly sinuate at the somewhat drawn out hind angles; surface finely and closely granulate, reticulation distinct. Elytra almost as broad as pronotum, not or feebly narrowed posteriorly; sides with two fine short setae, humeral seta c. 0.034 mm, i.e. as long as width of antennal base. Pygidium with apical tooth distinct. Male: unknown, parthenogenetic species. Female: spermatheca rudimentary.

Material examined: *Central Prov.:* Ramboda, 7 miles NW Nuwara-Eliya, 4.III.1962, in sweepnet, ravine with stream, loc. 118, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ex. (ZML); Knuckle Mts., foothills, 10 miles ENE Kandy, 11.III.1962, in sweepnet over stream, loc. 129, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 11 ex. (ZML); Kunundu-Oya, 2900 ft, 11 miles NE Nuwara-Eliya, 15.III.1962, in sweepnet at roadside, under stones in ravine with stream, loc. 147, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ex., 2 ex. (ZML); Kandy, 600 m, 15.I.1970, sieving in forest near chalet guesthouse, loc. 3*c*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1 ex. (MG); Kandy, Udawattekele Sanctuary, 600 m, 19.I.1970, sieving in virgin forest, loc. 11, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1 ex. (MG); above Mululla, 750 m, 27.I.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 29, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 6 ex. (MG); above Mululla, 750 m, 4.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 45, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1 ex. (MG); Kandy, Udawattakele Sanctuary, 10.I.1983, rotting fruit of Artocarpus, leg. M. D. Darby, 4 ex. (MDC); above Talatuoya, 850-1000 m, 27.I.1970, sieving in remains of forest, loc. 27*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 22 ex. (MG); Pussellawa, Rothschild Tea Plantation, 11.I.1983: rotting palm log 12 ex., dung pile 14 ex., in pile of weeds/palm cuttings/grass etc. 52 ex., leg. M. D. Darby (MDC). *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Deerwood, Kuruwita, 6 miles NNW Ratnapura, 18-21.II.1962, in sweepnet, ravine with stream, loc. 90: III, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 3 ex. (ZML); Karagal-Oya, 1900 ft., 3 miles ENE Belihul-Oya, 2.III.1962, sieving debris in ravine, loc. 110, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ex. (ZML); 8 miles W Kalewann, 20.I.1970, sieving under ferns in recently de-forested valley, loc. 13, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1 ex. (MG). *Uva Prov.:* 2 miles NW Haldummulla, 3600 ft., 2.III.1962, swept above stream surface, shrubs at roadside, loc. 111, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 5 ex. (ZML); Haputale, 1350 m, 23.I.1970, sieving in wooded ravine, loc. 19*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 9 ex. (MG); Diyaluma Falls, 400 m, 23.I.1970, sieving dead leaves in forest below falls, loc. 21, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1 ex. (MG); Inginiyagala, 12.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 63*c*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 3 ex. (MG).

Wider distribution: wide-ranging pantropical species, probably originating from the Afrotropical region (JOHNSON 1985).



FIGS. 17-19.

Acrotrichis habitus: 17, *discoloroides* Johnson; 18, *britteni* Johnson; 19, *cursitans* (Nietner).

FIGS 20-23.

Acrotrichis aedeagi: 20, *setosa* sp. n.; 21, *fulva* sp. n.; 22, *fusca* sp. n.; 23, *nigella* sp. n.

FIGS 24-28.

Acrotrichis spermathecae: 24, *britteni;* 25, *nigella;* 26, *setosa;* 27, *fusca;* 28, *fulva.* (Scale lines — Figs: 17-19, a; 20, 24, 26, b; 21-23, 27-28, c).

Acrotrichis (s. str.) setosa sp. n.

Length 0.80-0.90 mm. Body moderately broad, little convex; very shining, with metallic lustre to foreparts; finely and densely pubescent; conspicuously setiferous, setae outstanding, long and black, scattered, most conspicuous at body sides. Head, pronotum and scutellum blackish, elytra reddish; legs and antennal base yellowish-brown, rest of antennae ± infuscated. Head covered with fine points, reticulation absent. Antennae moderately long, 0.38-0.42 mm, stem segments mostly over 2.5 times as long as broad. Pronotum subparallel in basal half, breadth 0.50-0.55 mm; hind angles moderately produced and sharp; surface moderately but not too closely granulate, reticulation fine and distinct; side-edge feebly curved, very slightly sinuate at hind angles. Elytra about as broad as pronotum, not posteriorly narrowed; humeral seta c. 0.065 mm. Male: ventrite 6 internally with 16-17 coarser spines arranged in a double row and projecting into excavation; aedeagus fig. 20. Female: spermatheca fig. 26.

Holotype ♂: *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Kitulgala, 21 miles N Ratnapura, 17.III.1962, at light, loc. 152, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm (ZML).

Paratypes: *Central Prov.:* Sinharaja, 400 m, 4.XII.1979, mercury-light trap in virgin forest, leg. V. Mahler, 1♀ (VMC); Pussellawa, Rothschild Tea Plantation, 1800 ft., 11.I.1983, in dung pile, leg. M. D. Darby, 4♀ (MDC). *North Central Prov.:* Pollonnaruwa, 12-13.I.1983, in dung, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂, 2♀ (MDC); Anuradhapura, 15.I.1983, in dung, leg. M. D. Darby, 51 ex. (MDC). *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Ratnapura, 22.II.1962, at light, loc. 95, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♀ (ZML). *Southern Prov.:* Telwatta Sanctuary, 6.5 miles SSE Ambalangola, 26.I.1962, swept in vegetation, loc. 25, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♂ (ZML). *Uwa Prov.:* Inginiyagala, 12.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 63*c*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG). *Western Prov.:* Yakkala, 18 miles NE Colombo, 15.I.1962, cycadaceous cones, loc. 10, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 2♀ (ZML).

Although the very setiferous body renders this species unmistakeable amongst the oriental fauna, never the less it is extremely closely allied to *setigera* Johnson (JOHNSON 1984) from East Africa, both on external and spermathecal characters. The two species may be separated with certainty only by their aedeagi.

Acrotrichis (s. str.) britteni Johnson (figs 18, 24)

Johnson, 1969, *Revue Zool. Bot. Afr.* 79: 235; —, 1985, *Entomologica basil.* 10: 230.
ovatula; BRITTEN 1926*b*, *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., Zool.* 19: 91 (misidentification: not MOTSCHULSKY 1868).

Length 0.59-0.62 mm. Body narrow, little convex; somewhat dull, finely and densely pubescent. Reddish-brown to brownish-black; antennae yellowish-brown, two basal segments pale and bright. Head broad, coarsely and closely granulate, strongly reticulate. Antennae short, 0.29-0.30 mm, stem segments 2-2.5 times as long as broad. Pronotum subparallel in basal half, breadth 0.34-0.35 mm; hind angles almost moderately produced; surface coarsely and rather closely granulate, strongly reticulate; side-edge (from 45°) weakly curved, almost straight basally. Elytra rather short, 1.1-1.2 times as long as head and pronotum together (fig. 18); about as broad as pronotum, sides slightly curved. Male: unknown. Female: spermatheca fig. 24.

Material examined: *North West Prov.:* Rajakadaluwa, 31.I.1970, sieving bark and rotten wood of felled coconut palms in coconut plantation, loc. 36*b*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 11♀ (MG).

Sabaragamuwa Prov.: Kitulgala, 27 miles N Ratnapura, 17.III.1962, at light, loc. 152, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ♀ (ZML).

Wider distribution: Seychelles, Mascarenes and tropical Asia (JOHNSON 1985).

Acrotrichis (s. str.) fulva sp. n. (figs 21, 28)

Length 0.64-0.72 mm. Body rather narrow, slightly convex; rather shining, finely and densely pubescent. Yellowish to reddish-brown; legs and antennal base yellowish, antennae sometimes slightly infuscated apically. Head with fine points, reticulation lacking. Antennae rather short, 0,27-0.30 mm; stem segments about 3 times as long as broad. Pronotum broadest ± at base, breadth 0.34-0.37 mm; hind angles moderately produced; surface finely but not too closely granulate, reticulation distinct; side-edge slightly curved. Elytra about as broad as pronotum, sides subparallel. Male: ventrite 6 internally with 6 coarse spines projecting into excavation; aedeagus fig. 21. Female: spermatheca fig. 28.

Holotype ♀: *Central Prov.:* Knuckle Mts., 15 miles NE Kandy, 11.III.1962, sieved in jungle, loc. 132, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm (ZML).

Paratypes: *Central Prov.:* same data as holotype, 7♂, 1♀ (ZML). *Western Prov.:* Yakkala, 18 miles NE Colombo, 15-31.I.1962, loc. 11, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♂ (ZML).

Acrotrichis (s. str.) fusca sp. n. (figs 22, 27)

Length 0.62-0.72 mm. Body rather narrow, slightly convex; rather shining, finely and densely pubescent. Usually dark reddish-brown, very rarely blackish; legs and antennal base usually yellowish, antennae sometimes infuscated apically; very rarely all appendages are strongly infuscated. Head with ± distinct, fine points, reticulation usually present but obscured. Antennae somewhat moderate in length, 0.30-0.34 mm; stem segments c. 2.5 times as long as broad. Pronotum broadest behind middle but before base, breadth 0.37-0.39 mm; hind angles moderately produced; surface finely but not too closely granulate, reticulation distinct; side-edge slightly curved. Elytra about as broad as pronotum, sides subparallel. Male: ventrite 6 internally with 3 coarse spines, median spine set back, projecting into excavation; aedeagus fig. 22. Female: spermatheca fig. 27.

Holotype ♀: *Central Prov.:* Kandy, 700 m, 14.II.1970, wooded hills to S of lake, sieving dead leaves accumulated in large hollow, loc. 67*b*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl (MG).

Paratypes: *Central Prov.:* Kandy, 600 m, 15.I.1970, sieving and under bark in forest near chalet guesthouse, loc. 3*b/c*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 3♀, 12 ex. (MG); Kandy, Udawattakele Sanctuary, 19.I.1970, sieving in virgin forest, loc. 11, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂, 6 ex. (MG); Kandy, Udawattakele, 10.I.1983, rotting fruit, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂, 2♀, 37 ex. (MDC); Mululla, 750 m, 4.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 45, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂ (MG); above Talatuoya, 850-1000 m, 27.I.1970, sieving in remains of forest, loc. 27*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂ (MG).

Acrotrichis (s. str.) nigella sp. n. (figs 23, 25)

Length 0.61-0.69 mm. Body rather narrow, slightly convex; rather shining, finely and densely pubescent. Dark reddish-brown to blackish; legs and antennae yellowish-brown, frequently ± infuscated. Head with fine points, reticulation lacking. Antennae rather

long, 0.34-0.38 mm; stem segments usually over 3 times as long as broad. Pronotum broadest behind middle but before base, breadth 0.32-0.37 mm; hind angles moderately produced; surface finely but not too closely granulate, reticulation distinct; side-edge slightly curved. Elytra about as broad as pronotum, sides subparallel. Male: ventrite 6 with hind margin lightly excavated medially, internally with a row of c. 12 coarse spines projecting into excavation; aedeagus fig. 23. Female: spermatheca fig. 25.

Holotype ♀: *Central Prov.:* Hatton, 1400 m, 9.II.1970, sieving in forest, wooded mountain E of town, loc. 55*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl (MG).

Paratypes: *Central Prov.:* same data as holotype, 2♂, 4♀ (MG); Hakgala, 1700-1800 m, 28.I.1970, sieving in wooded ravine, NE of mountain, loc. 30*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 9♂, 9♀ (MG). *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Maratenna, 4500 ft., 7 miles N Balangoda, 22.II.1962, loc. 98, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1♂, 2♀ (ZML).

Acrotrichis (Flachiana) cursitans (Nietner) (figs 19, 29, 31)

Nietner, 1856, *J. Asiat. Soc. Beng.* 25: 527 *(Trichopteryx)*; —, 1857, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (1856) 19: 378 *(Trichopteryx)*; MATTHEWS 1872, *Trichopt. Illustr.:* 115, 144 *(Trichopteryx)*; JOHNSON 1969, *Revue Zool. Bot. Afr.* 79: 250; —, 1985, *Entomologica basil.* 10: 231.

immatura Nietner, 1856, *J. Asiat. Soc. Beng.* 25: 527 *(Trichopteryx)*; —, 1857, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (1856) 19: 378 *(Trichopteryx).*

brunnea Britten, 1926, *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond., Zool.* 19: 91.

Length 0.80-0.91 mm. Body moderately broad, slightly convex; little shining, finely and densely pubescent. Dark brown; antennae dark brown, two basal segments slightly paler. Head rather closely covered with fine points, reticulation indistinct. Antennae short, 0.34-0.37 mm, stem segments c. 2 times as long as broad and rather thick. Pronotum broadest close to base, breadth 0.51-0.56 mm; hind angles broadly and markedly produced, surface finely and closely granulate, reticulate; weak metallic lustre occasionally present; side-edge weakly curved and almost straight basally. Elytra strongly narrowed posteriorly; epipleura widened ventrally in humeral region. Male: ventrite 6 excavation shallow, with a basal fold and an extensive fringe of coarse setae; aedeagus fig. 29. Female: spermatheca fig. 31.

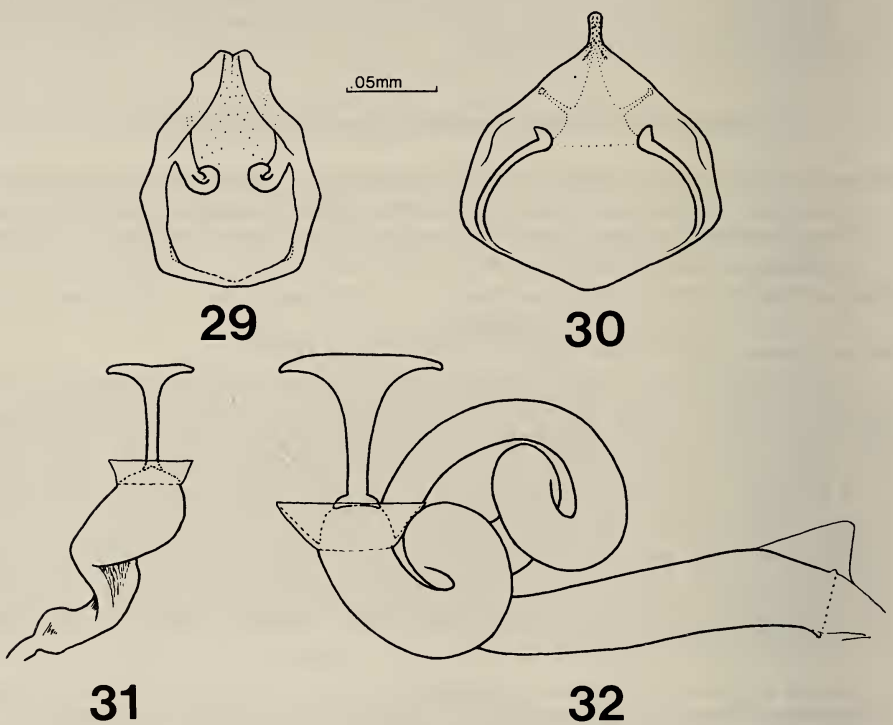
Material examined: *Central Prov.:* Kunundu Oya, 2900 ft., 11 miles NE Nuwara Eliya, 15.III.1962, under stones in ravine with stream, loc. 147, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ex. (ZML); above Talatuoya, 850-1000 m, 27.I.1970, sieving in remains of forest, loc. 27*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 11 ex. (MG); Horton Plains, 2100 m, 15.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 68, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG); Kandy, Udawattakele Sanctuary, 10.I.1983, rotting fruit of Artocarpus, leg. M. D. Darby, 10 ex. (MDC); Pussellawa, Rothschild Tea Plantation, 1800 ft., 11.I.1983, dung pile, leg. M. D. Darby, 2♂, 1♀ (MDC). *North West Prov.:* Andapolakanda, 3 miles NE Melsiripura, 7.II.1962, in sweepnet, loc. 53, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ex. (ZML); Rajakadaluwa, 31.I.1970, sieving bark and rotten wood of felled coconut palms in coconut plantation, loc. 36*b*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂ (MG). *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Kitulgala, 21 miles N Ratnapura, 17.III.1962, at light, loc. 152, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 1 ex. (ZML); Kegalla, 14.I.1970, sieving in wooded ravine partially planted with bananas, loc. 2, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG). *Uva Prov.:* Haputale, 23.I.1970, 1350 m, sieving in wooded ravine, loc. 19*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂ (MG). No locality, leg. G. Lewis, 1♂, 1♀ (BMNH).

Lectotype ♂ (by present designation), 1♂ 4♀ paralectotypes:/Ceylon, Colombo, Nietner J.//Mus. Zool. Polonicum Warszawa 12/45 //Acrotrichis cursitans Nietn., determ. transcr. ex. coll.

Mus. Stettin//cursitans Nietn. Colombo//Syntypus/ (PAS). Other paralectotypes: with same labels as lectotype, 7 ex. (PAS); /Matthews coll. 1904-120//1628, 1629//Trichopteryx cursitans Ceylon Nietner//? T. cursitans, Nietn., I. B. Ericson det//20//cursitans — Type specimens from M. Neitner, N. C. A. Dohrn/, 2 ex. (BMNH);/Matthews coll. 1904-120//1633//.19//cursitans. Type from Nietner. Ceylon.-Kraatz, 3)/, 1 ex. (BMNH).

Lectotype ♂ (*immatura,* by present designation — top specimen), 1 paralectotype:/Matthews coll. 1904-120//1630, 1631//Trichopteryx immatura Ceylon Nietner//?T. cursitans, Nietn. I. B. Ericson det (Immature)//immatura-Type specimens from M. Neitner. N. C. A. Dohrn/ (BMNH).

Wider distribution: Palaeotropical species: Madagascar, South Africa, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Philippine Islands (JOHNSON, 1985).



FIGS 29-30.

Acrotrichis aedeagi: 29, *cursitans* (Nietner); 30, *orientalis* Motschulsky.

FIGS 31-32.

Acrotrichis spermathecae: 31, *cursitans;* 32, *orientalis.*

Acrotrichis (Flachiana) orientalis Motschulsky (Figs 30, 32)

Motschulsky, 1858, *Etudes Ent.* 7: 32; —, 1869, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou* (1868) 41: 177; MATTHEWS 1872, *Trichopt. Illustr.:* 115, 145 *(Trichopteryx);* —, 1900, *Trichopt. Supplementa:* 41 *(Trichopteryx).*

ceylonica Motschulsky, 1858, *Etudes Ent.* 7: 33; —, 1869, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou* (1868) 41: 177; Matthews 1872, *Trichopt. Illustr.:* 115, 139 *(Trichopteryx)*; —, 1900, *Trichopt. Supplementa:* 49 *(Trichopteryx)* (Syn. n.)

trapeziformis Motschulsky, 1858, *Etudes ent.* 7: 33; —, 1869, *Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou* (1868) 41: 177; Matthews 1872, *Trichopt. Illustr.:* 27 *(Trichopteryx)* (syn. n.)

umbricola; Csiki 1911, *Coleopt. cat.* 32: 53 (Misidentification: not Wollaston 1854).

Length 0.91-1.07 mm. Body very broad, markedly convex; rather shining, finely and densely pubescent. Very dark brownish, pronotal hind angles noticeably paler than disc; legs and antennal base yellowish-brown; rest of antennae ± weakly infuscated. Head rather closely covered with fine points, reticulation absent or indistinct. Antennae rather long, 0.42-0.50 mm, stem segments mostly over 3 times as long as broad and thin. Pronotum broadest in front of base, breadth 0.59-0.69 mm; hind angles broadly and markedly produced; surface very finely and very closely granulate, reticulate; side-edge rather strongly curved. Elytra strongly narrowed posteriorly; epipleura widened ventrally in humeral region. Male: ventrite 6 with hind margin very feebly excavated medially, without coarse spines; aedeagus fig. 30. Female: spermatheca fig. 32.

Material examined: *Central Prov.:* Hakgala, 5 miles SE Nuwara-Eliya, 3.III.1962, sieved in debris, jungle, loc. 114: 1, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 42 ex. (ZML); Pidurutalagala, 2 miles NW Nuwara-Eliya, 4.III.1962, sieved in debris at stream in indigenous bamboo forest, loc. 116: 1, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 2 ex. (ZML); Mudduk, 5500 ft., 5 miles NW Nuwara-Eliya, 4.III.1962, at small stream, loc. 117, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 3 ex. (ZML); Knuckle Mts., 15 miles NE Kandy, 11.III.1962, sieved in jungle, loc. 132, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 7 ex. (ZML); Dikoya, 3800-4200 ft., 17.XII.1881, leg. G. Lewis, 1♂, 1♀ (MM); Kandy, 15.I.1970, sieving in forest near chalet guesthouse, loc. 3*c,* leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♀ (MG); above Talatuoya, 850-1000 m, 27.I.1970, sieving in remains of forest, loc. 27*a,* leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 48 ex. (MG); Hakgala, 1700-1800 m, 28.I.1970, sieving in wooded ravine towards NE of mountain, loc. 30*a,* leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 121 ex. (MG); Hakgala, 1800 m, 28.I.1970, sieving in virgin forest above botanic garden, loc. 30*c,* leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 25 ex. (MG); above Mululla, 750 m, 4.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 45*b*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 17 ex. (MG); Hatton, 1400 m, 9.II.1970, sieving in forest of wooded mountain E of town, loc. 55*a,* leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 73 ex. (MG); Horton Plains, 2100 m, 15.II.1970, sieving in forest, loc. 68, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 1♂ (MG); Kandy, Udawattakele Sanctuary, 10.I.1983, leaf litter, leg. M. D. Darby, 1♂ (MDC); Nuwara-Eliya, 1950 m, 29.I., 15.II.1970, lower limit of forest at foot of Pidurutalagala, loc. 33/69, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 46 ex., 26 ex. (MG); Nuwara-Eliya, c. 1850 m, 3.XII.1985, fungoid cedar litter, leg. T.-E. Leiler, 10 ex. (MM); Pidurutalagala, 2500 m, 29.I.1970, sieving at upper limit of forest just below summit, loc. 31, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 2♂, 2♀ (MG); Pidurutalagala, 2200 m, 29.I.1970, sieving in forest towards SW of mountain, loc. 32, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 2♂, 2♀ (MG); Pidurutalagala, 2200-2480 m, 18.XII.1979, bamboo litter in shade, leg. V. Mahler, 2♂ (VMC). *Sabaragamuwa Prov.:* Maratenna, 4500 ft., 7 miles N Balangoda, 22.II.1962, sieved in debris, loc. 98, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 3 ex. (ZML); Karagal-Oya, 1900 ft., 3 miles ENE Belihut-Oya, 2.III.1962, sieved in debris by stream in ravine, loc. 110, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 4 ex. (ZML). *Uva Prov.:* 2 miles NW Haldummulla, 3600 ft., 2.III.1962, sieved in debris, ravine with stream, loc. 111, leg. Brinck-Andersson-Cederholm, 26 ex. (ZML); Haputale, 1350 m, 23.I.1970, sieving in wooded ravine, loc. 19*a*, leg. Mussard-Besuchet-Löbl, 141 ex. (MG). No precise locality: leg. G. Lewis, 6 ex. (BMNH), leg. A. Matthews, 15 ex. (BMNH), leg. J. Nietner, 1 ex. (PAS), 1865/6, leg. V. Motschulsky, 2 ex. (BMNH).

Lectotype ♂ (by present designation), 2♂ paralectotypes: /Acratrichis orientalis Motsch. Mt. Nura El. Ceyl.//G/ (ZMM).

Lectotype ♀ (*ceylonica,* by present designation), 1♀ paralectotype: */Acratrichis ceylonica* Motsch. Ind. or. Ceylon//type/ (ZMM).

Holotype ♂ *(trapeziformis)*: */Acratrichis trapeziformis* Motsch., Mt. Nura El. Ceyl.//type/ (ZMM).

Synonymy. According to WOLLASTON (1865), Matthews was not satisfied that *orientalis* and the Madeiran *umbricola* Wollaston (1854) were not identical. This remark seems to have been used by CSIKI (1911) as a basis for sinking the Motschulsky name as a synonym of *umbricola,* despite the fact that Matthews clearly maintained both as separate species in later years (MATTHEWS 1872, 1900). The present species, on account of its distinctive genital characters especially, is completely unrelated to the Madeiran endemic.

Wider distribution. There are old specimens of *orientalis* supposedly collected on Grenada and St. Vincent in the West Indies by H. H. Smith (BMNH), as well as one labelled as a 'type' of *lethierryi* Reiche from Algeria, ex. coll. Matthews (BMNH). Since *orientalis* is characteristic of the mountainous jungles of central Sri Lanka, the reputed Algerian and West Indian specimens are considered to be wrongly labelled.

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